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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. The Bulgarian Press 2. Reorganization in the Bulgarian News Agency (BTA)	DATE DISTR.	2 September 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

Control of the Press

1. Existing decrees or laws do not provide for any official control of the Bulgarian press or curtailment of its freedom, except those restrictions in the State Secrets Act. While the press enjoys complete freedom in theory, in practice every topic is directly or indirectly connected with forbidden subjects and may be interpreted as such by editors and censors. A group of three to five censors, who are assigned to the editorial offices of newspapers, check daily the material prepared for publication and are authorized to discard anything which they consider to fall under the category of official secrets.
2. Direct and indirect control of the press is exercised by the following means:
 - a. Regular meetings between representatives of Agitprop, the chief editors, and the political editors. Agitprop gives explicit instructions in these meetings for selecting subjects for publication and the manner in which they are to be treated.
 - b. Agitprop itself prepares articles, which are distributed to the newspapers for publication.
 - c. Absorption of all small printing shops into large Government-controlled presses by complete nationalization. A private individual is not allowed to own a press or any printing equipment, except a typewriter.
 - d. Restrictions on the sale of large quantities of paper to private individuals. Newsprint is not available on the free market.
 - e. Restrictions on the sale of stencils, which requires a special authorization from the Ministry of the Interior.

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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- f. Restrictions on the sale of rubber stamps, which requires a special authorization from the Militia.
- g. Members of editorial staffs, administrative staffs, and employees of printing presses are either Party members or are considered sufficiently reliable. Furthermore, they are kept under close and constant supervision.
- h. The cadre departments of newspapers and printing presses carefully supervise the selection of staff members and maintain continuing supervision of them.

Newspapers and Periodicals in Sofia

- 3. The following publications appear daily or six times a week in Sofia:
 - a. Rabotnichesko Delo, official publication of the Party Central Committee; editorial offices 47 Lenin Boulevard; annual subscription 72.96 leva.
 - b. Otechestven Front, official publication of the National Council of the Front; editorial offices 47 Lenin Boulevard; telephone 78111, 78112, and 78113; annual subscription 62.40 leva.
 - c. Vecherni Novini, official publication of the Party City Committee; editorial offices 47 "11 August" Street; telephone 74291; annual subscription 62.40 leva.
 - d. Zemdel'sko Zname, semi-official publication of the National Union of Agricultural Workers; editorial offices 1 Yanku Zabunov; telephone 78252; annual subscription 62.40 leva.
 - e. Trud, publication of the Trade Unions in Bulgaria; editorial offices 82 Dondukov Boulevard; telephone 78253; annual subscription 61.40 leva.
 - f. Narodna Armiya, publication of the Ministry of Defense; editorial offices 12 Ivan Vazov; telephone 78116, extension 633; annual subscription 64 leva.
 - g. Narodna Mladezh, publication of Central Committee of the DSNM (Dimitrovski Soyuz na Narodnata Mladezh; Dimitrov's Union of the People's Youth); editorial offices Lenin Boulevard; telephone 84311; annual subscription 62.40 leva.
 - h. Za Kooperativno Zemedelie, publication of the Ministry of Agriculture; editorial offices 18 "11 August" Street; telephone 81182 and 81183; annual subscription 62.40 leva.
- 4. The following publications appear semi-weekly:
 - a. Izvestia Na Presidiuma Na Narodnoto Sabraniya, publication of the Council of Ministers and the National Assembly; editorial offices Cherni Vrach Boulevard; annual subscription 100 leva.
 - b. Patriot, publication of the Central Council of DOSO (Dobrovolna Organizatsiya za Sudeystvie na Otbranata; Voluntary Organization for Defense Assistance); editorial offices Cherni Vrach Boulevard; annual subscription 20.08 leva.
 - c. Naroden Sport, publication of the VKFS (Vurkhovai Komitet za Fizicheska Kultura i Sport; Supreme Committee for Physical Culture and Sport); editorial offices 82 Dondukov Boulevard; telephone 77736; annual subscription 41.64 leva.

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- d. Transport, publication of the Ministry of Transport and the Union of Transport Workers; editorial offices 9 Stefan Karadza; telephone 73258; annual subscription 20.80 leva.
5. The following publications appear weekly:
- a. Bulgaro-Sovetsko Edinstvo is the publication of the Bulgaro-Soviet Associations. The annual subscription rate is 10.40 leva.
 - b. Za Traen Mir, Za Narodna Demokratia, publication of the Information Bureau of the Workers (Communist) Parties; editorial offices at Lenin Boulevard; telephone 72112; yearly subscription 15.60 leva. Central editorial offices are located at 56 Valeriu Braniste Street, Bucharest.
 - c. Zdraven Front, publication of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Services; editorial offices 6 Gavril Genov; telephone 80121; annual subscription 20 leva. It appears on Sundays.
 - d. Literaturen Front, publication of the Union of Bulgarian Writers; editorial offices 5 Angel Funchev; telephone 80031; annual subscription 20 leva. It appears on Thursdays.
 - e. Radio Pregled, publication of the Directorate of Broadcasting Service; editorial offices 30 Shishman Street; telephone 73708; annual subscription 20 leva.
 - f. Uchitelsko Delo, publication of the Ministry of National Education; editorial offices 29 Moskova; telephone 81728; annual subscription 16 leva.
 - g. Septemvriiche, publication of the DSNM; annual subscription 10.40 leva.
 - h. Sturshel, a humorous and satirical publication; telephone number 80051; annual subscription 20 leva. Cherkashe (fnu) is the editor-in chief; Valery Petrov is the editor; and Haim Benadov is the editor.
 - i. Eilindju Chodjuk, publication in Turkish; annual subscription 10.40 leva.
 - j. Halk Guenchlii, weekly publication in Turkish; annual subscription 10.56 leva.
 - k. Evreiski Vesti is a publication of the Central Consistory of the Jewish Communities. Moshev (fnu) is the editor.
6. The following publications appear semi-monthly:
- a. Tekhnichesko Delo, publication of the scientific and technical organizations; annual subscription eight leva.
 - b. Yeni Busheuk, publication in Turkish; annual subscription 21.12 leva.
7. Frequency of appearance and subscription fees are not known for the following:
- a. Rudnichar, publication of the Ministry of Heavy Industry and of the Central Committee of the Miners Union; editorial offices 74 Samuil Street; phone 84874 and 84875.
 - b. Stakhanovets is a publication of the Party Committees and Trade Union branches in factories, particularly in the Vulkan cement works and the asbestos and cement works at Dimitrovgrad.

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Magazines and Reviews in Sofia

8. The following publications appear semi-monthly:
 - a. Bulgaria Dnes appears in French and English. The annual subscription rate is 10 leva.
 - b. Nova Bulgaria appears in Russian. The annual subscription rate is 10 leva.
9. The following publications appear monthly:
 - a. Bulgarski Knigopis, biographical bulletin of books and new periodicals deposited in the Bulgarian Bibliographic Institute; editorial offices 11 Tolbukhin Boulevard; telephone 42939; annual subscription 12 leva.
 - b. Bulgaro-Sovetska Druzha, picture publication in color of the Union of Bulgaro-Soviet Associations; editorial offices Narodno Sobranie Square; telephone 73075; annual subscription 24 leva. Nikolas Kondarev and Dinko Tochev are the editors.
 - c. Bulgarski Voin, picture publication in color of the General Political Directorate under the Ministry of Defense; editorial offices 1 Molotov Boulevard; telephone 80370; annual subscription 25 leva. Gutman (fnu) is the editor-in-chief.
 - d. V Zashtita Na Mira, publication of the National Committee of the Peace Movement in Bulgaria; editorial offices 27 Ivan Vazov; telephone 81191; annual subscription 12 leva. Todor Pondev is the editor.
 - e. Elektroenergiya, publication of the Ministry of Electrification and the Union of Electrification and Heavy Industry Workers; editorial offices at 3 Aksakov; telephone 79819; annual subscription 20 leva. Engineer Petko Koliovski is the chief editor.
 - f. Zhenata Dnes, political, cultural and arts publication of the Committee of Democratic Women in Bulgaria; editorial offices 82 Patriarch Eftimi; telephone 51002; annual subscription 20 leva. Marin Belcheva is the chief editor.
 - g. Za Rodinata, publication of the Voluntary Organization for Defense Cooperation; editorial offices at 2 Sveta Sofia; telephone 77336; annual subscription 20 leva. Dimitur Hadzilev is the chief editor.
 - h. Kooperativno Zemedelie, publication of the Ministry of Agriculture; annual subscription 26 leva.
 - i. Kino, publication of the Committee for Cinematography and the Bulgarian Writers' Union; editorial offices 9 Birizov Boulevard; annual subscription 30 leva. Kiril Voinov is the chief editor.
 - j. Mladezh, publication for youth; annual subscription 34 leva.
 - k. Narodna Prosveta, pedagogical journal; editorial offices 11 Parensov; telephone 82490; annual subscription 14 leva. Todor Samodumov is the chief editor.
 - l. Nauka I Technika Za Mladezhiti, color publication of the DSNM; editorial offices 15 Legei; annual subscription 20 leva. A. Farchi is the editor.
 - m. Byulletin Na Duzhzhavnata Biblioteka "Vasil Kolarov", publication of the "Vasil Kolarov" (formerly National) Library; editorial offices 11 Tolbukhin; bulletin distributed free of charge.

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- n. Nasha Rodina, color publication for politics, literature, and arts; editorial offices 16 Gavril Genov; telephone 77759; annual subscription 36 leva. Bogomil Nonev is the chief editor, and Albet Cohen is the assistant chief editor.
- o. Minno Delo, publication of the Ministry of Heavy Industry; editorial offices 22 Georgi Dimitrov; annual subscription 32 leva. Engineer P. Petrov is the chief editor.
- p. Lov I Ribarstvo, publication of the National Union of Hunters and Anglers; editorial offices 12 Gavril Genov; telephone 80012; annual subscription 12 leva. Marin Vasharov is the chief editor.
- q. Komunalno Stopanstvo is a publication of the Ministry for Communal Industry, Trade, and Public Works.
- r. Novo Vreme, publication for theoretics of the Party Central Committee; editorial offices 47 Lenin Boulevard; telephone 43652, extension 81; annual subscription 20 leva.
- s. Osvedomotelen Byulletin, publication of the Party Organization of Sofia (municipality); annual subscription 18 leva.
- t. Pionerska Samodeinost, publication of the Central Committee of the DSNM; editorial offices 15 Legay Street; telephone 81111; annual subscription 20 leva. Leda Mileva is the editor-in-chief.
- u. Poshtenets, publication of the Postal Department and the Union of Postal Workers; annual subscription 10 leva. Nedelcho Iovchev is the chief editor.
- v. Rabotnicheskoselski Dopisnik, publication of Rabotnichesko Delo; annual subscription 9.60 leva.
- w. Ratsionalisatsiya, publication of the Institute for Rationalization; editorial offices 21 Patriarch Eftimi; telephone 73211; annual subscription 32 leva.
- x. Savremena Meditsina, publication of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Services; annual subscription 56 leva. Dr. Ivan Penchev is the editor.
- y. Sotsialisticheska Turgovia, publication of the Ministry of Local Trade and the Union of Bank and Commercial Workers; editorial offices 5 Graf Ignatiev; telephone 75254; annual subscription 48 leva. Asen Boyadziev is the chief editor, and Benyamin Varon is the secretary.
- z. Sotsialistichesko Pravo, publication of the Ministry of Justice and the Attorney-General; editorial offices Room #55 on fourth floor of Justice Building, extension 244; annual subscription 32 leva.
- aa. Slaviani, publication of the Slav Committee in Bulgaria; editorial offices 5 Ruski Boulevard; telephone 72308; annual subscription 28 leva. Ivan Martinov is the chief editor.
- bb. Septemvrii, publication of the Union of Bulgarian Writers; annual subscription 56 leva.
- cc. Stroitelstvo, publication of the Ministry of Construction; editorial offices 6 Krum; telephone 76307; annual subscription 40 leva. B. Todorov is the editor.
- dd. Teater, publication of the Ministry of Culture for the theater and the drama; annual subscription 30 leva.

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- ee. Tezhka Promishlenost is a publication of the Ministry of Heavy Industry. Atanas Izmirliiev is the technical editor.
 - ff. Technika, publication of the Union of Scientific and Technical Associations; editorial offices 108 Rakovski; annual subscription 20 leva. Engineer D. Nikolov is the editor.
 - gg. Fiskultura I Sport, publication of the Supreme Committee of Physical Culture and Sport; editorial offices 5 St. Karadzha; annual subscription 28.80 leva. A. Valadzhi is the editor.
 - hh. Chitalishte, publication of the Union of Popular Lecture Halls; editorial offices 31 Alabin; telephone 76811; annual subscription 40 leva.
 - ii. Shakhmatna Missal, publication for chess of the Supreme Committee for Physical Culture and Sports; editorial offices at 5 St. Karadzha; telephone 70480; annual subscription 30 leva. A. Malchev is the chief editor.
10. The following publications appear 10 times per year:
- a. Geografiya, popular scientific publication of the Bulgarian Geographic Association; annual subscription 14 leva. Ignatz Pentov is the editor.
 - b. Gorsko Stopanstvo, technical-scientific publication of the Forestry Directorate under the Council of Ministers; annual subscription 26 leva.
 - c. Druzhenka, picture publication of the DSNM for school children of the first to the fifth grades; editorial offices 23 Gurko; telephone 83941; annual subscription 16 leva. Ran Bossilek is the editor.
 - d. Plamache, publication of the DSNM for school children of grades five to seven; editorial offices 23 Gurko; telephone 76297; annual subscription 12 leva. Al Muratov is the chief editor.
 - e. Pionerski Rakovoditel, publication of the Central Committee of the DSNM; annual subscription 18 leva.
 - f. Preduchilishtno Vospitanie, publication of the Ministry of National Education; annual subscription 17 leva. Elka Petrova is the editor.
 - g. Priroda I Znanie, publication of the Association for Natural Science; editorial offices 4 Geneva; telephone 41428; annual subscription 12 leva. V. Bozarov is the editor.
 - h. Radio, publication of the Ministry of Posts, the Broadcasting Service, and the Central Council of DCSO; editorial offices 12 Graf Ignatiev; telephone 76046; annual subscription 20 leva. Nedelcho Iovchev is the chief editor.
 - i. Semeistvo I Uchilishte, publication of the Ministry of Public Education; editorial offices 37 Vasil Drumev; annual subscription 10 leva. Marin Ionov is the editor.
 - j. Uchilishtna Praktika, publication of the Ministry of National Education; editorial offices 37 Vasil Drumev; annual subscription 16 leva. Ivan Velichkov is the editor.
 - k. Finantsi I Krediti, publication of the National Bank, the Bank of Investments, the Savings Bank, and the State Insurance Institute; editorial offices in the National Bank; telephone 71831; annual subscription 20 leva. Khristo Nikolov is the chief editor.

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1. Khirurgia, publication of surgical specialists; editorial offices in the Alexandra Clinic for orthopedy and traumatology; annual subscription 56 leva. Dr. B. Boichev is the editor.
11. Transportno Delo, publication of the Ministry of Transport; editorial offices 9 St. Karadzha; annual subscription 15 leva. It deals with questions of political economy, technology, and production, and appears nine times per year.
12. Bulgaria, a picture publication in color and printed in Russian, appears eight times a year; annual subscription 32 leva.
13. The following publications appear bi-monthly:
 - a. Ezik I Literatura, publication of the Association of Slav Philologists in Bulgaria; editorial offices 15 Ruski Boulevard; annual subscription 15 leva. Simon Rusakiev is the chief editor.
 - b. Zdravno Delo, publication of the Ministry of Health and Social Services; deals with public health, epidemiology, microbiology, hygiene, and sanitation problems; annual subscription 20 leva.
 - c. Istoriicheski Pregled, publication of the Academy of Science; editorial offices 21 Marin Drinov; telephone 41642; annual subscription 20 leva. Professors J. Nathan and Al. Burmov are the editors.
 - d. Priroda, publication of the Academy of Sciences; editorial offices 4 Serdika; telephone 76849; annual subscription 30 leva. Professor Dr. Tsvetane Khristanov is the editor.
 - e. Planovo Stopanstvo, publication of the Supreme Planning Commission; editorial offices 21 Dondukov; telephone 74272; annual subscription 22 leva. M. Kolev is the editor.
 - f. Stomatologia, publication of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Services; editorial offices 8 Bialo More; annual subscription 30 leva. Dr. Burkov is the editor.
 - g. Stenografski Pregled, publication of the Ministry of National Education; yearly subscription 15 leva.
 - h. Sreden Meditsinski Rabotnik, publication of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Services; editorial offices 2 Graf Ignatiev; annual subscription 15 leva. Dr. S. Abramov is the chief editor.
 - i. Farmatsiya, publication of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Services; annual subscription 24 leva. Dr. N. Stoyanov is the editor.
 - j. Filosofska Misal, publication of the Institute of Philosophy; editorial offices 6 Moskovska; telephone 79830; annual subscription 24 leva. Todor Pavlov is the chief editor.
14. The following publications appear quarterly:
 - a. Bulgarski Ezik, publication of the Bulgarian Language Institute of the Academy of Science; annual subscription 20 leva.
 - b. Izkustvo, publication of the Ministry of Culture and the Union of Painters (Artists); editorial offices 37 Moskovska; annual subscription 48 leva. Nikolai Shmirgel is the chief editor.
15. Neither the frequency of appearance nor the annual subscription rate is known for the following publications:
 - a. Vunshna Targovia, publication of the Ministry of Foreign Trade.

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- b. Bulgarska Muzika, publication of the Ministry of Culture and the Union of Composers, Musicians, and Music Theoreticians; editorial offices 7a Aksakov. Composer Georgi Dimitrov is the chief editor.
- c. Dostavki, publication of the Ministry of Supply; editorial offices 3 Graf Ignatiev; telephone 72443.
- d. Zhivotnovudstvo I Veterinarno Delo, publication of the Ministry of Agriculture; telephone 77251, extension 207.
- e. Informatsionen Byulletin, publication of the Public Relations Council of Sofia Municipality; editorial offices 12 Eksarkh Yosif; telephone 81783.
- f. Informatsionen Kooperativen Byulletin, publication of the Cooperatives Center; editorial offices 19 Vesletz.
- g. Narodna Kooperatsiya, also a publication of the Cooperatives Center; editorial offices 101 Rakovski. Asen Georgiev is the chief editor.
- h. Serdika, publication of the Sofia Municipal Council; editorial offices 1 Gurko; telephone 70811. Atanas Duchkov is the editor.
- i. Khudozhestvena Samodeinost, stencilled publication of the Ministry of Culture. K. Dimitrova is the editor.

Provincial Newspapers

- 16. In addition to the above-named publications which treat both local subjects of general interest for the entire country and international questions, there are approximately 30 newspapers and magazines published in the provincial towns. Most of this number are weeklies and bi-weeklies, but the most important dailies are as follows:
 - a. Chernomorski Front, Burgas;
 - b. Otechestven Glas, Plovdiv;
 - c. Dunavska Pravda, Ruse; and
 - d. Stalinsko Zname, Stalin.

Circulation

- 17. Each adult citizen, whether he so desires or not, receives at least one newspaper per day. Before beginning work, all workers must attend daily lectures on the principal articles which appear in Rabotnichesko Delo, accompanied by suitable commentaries and explanations. Similar lectures have been organized in apartment houses, which all tenants have to attend and at which an official or a tenant delegated by the Party comments on current topics published in the press. The importance attached to the press is demonstrated by the relatively high salaries which are paid to the editors and to the senior staff of the newspapers.

News Agencies

- 18. The largest foreign news agency operating in Bulgaria is the Soviet TASS, which is located at 1 Asparukh, Sofia, telephone 52276. Golobev (fnm) is manager of the TASS office in Sofia which employs six journalists. A number of correspondents, for whom this work is added to their normal employment, are stationed in the principal provincial towns and are paid on the basis of the number of articles which they send in to TASS. News agencies of other Communist countries are represented by the Press Attaches of their Legations.

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19. Golobev, manager of TASS, is a Soviet who is also the correspondent of the Moscow Pravda and head of the Union of Foreign Correspondents (Styuz na Chuzhdestranite Korespondenti) in Sofia. The Union was established in 1928, and its capital at the beginning of 1954 was 7,600 leva. Golobev is opposed to accepting any new members into the Union.
20. The Bulgarian News Agency (Bulgarska Telegrafna Agentsiyaj B.T.A.) has its offices at 15 Boulevard Ruski, Sofia, telephone 81721. Ilia Kiulovski heads the agency, which employs approximately 60 workers in Sofia and correspondents in the principal provincial towns. The foreign news distributed by B.T.A. are copied from the TASS bulletins. In addition to the usual daily bulletin, B.T.A. publishes a secret bulletin which includes news appearing in the Western press and broadcast from Western stations. This bulletin, which is devoid of commentaries, is distributed to Government institutions and to selected Party members.
21. The following personalities at the B.T.A. are known:
 - a. Krum Khristov, editor of news about the Western world [redacted]
 - b. Albert Dekalo is the editor of local economic news.
 - c. Lupo Rosenstein, editor of news about Yugoslavia, is the author of the anti-American articles published in the local dailies and magazines.
 - d. Boris Voynov is editor of the news about Communist countries.

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Reorganization in the Bulgarian News Agency (Date of Information: July 1954)

22. In early July 1954 the department of the Bulgarian News Agency (BTA) charged with responsibility for Yugoslavia, Greece, and Turkey was reorganized, and its scope of operations was reorientated. The department was reduced from its former staff of 20 to a skeleton staff of eight, although the number of workers in charge of Turkish news remained unchanged. Dino Kiosev is the new head of the department. [redacted]
23. The reorganized department was instructed to refrain from publishing any news or articles of an offensive nature about Yugoslavia and Greece; however, it is to use articles published in the Yugoslav and Greek press which point up the prevailing difficult conditions and the opposition of the population to the present regimes in those countries.
24. Albert Dekalo and Lupo Rosenstein, former workers in the department for Turkey, Yugoslavia, and Greece, have been transferred to the department which prepares propaganda material on Bulgaria for distribution to other Communist countries.

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Printing Presses

25. The most important official dailies (Rabotnichesko Delo and Otechestven Front) and the publications of the DSNM are printed at 47 Lenin Boulevard, adjacent to the Air Force barracks. The plant, which has not yet been completed, was built by the Party and is occupied by its Propaganda Department, editorial offices, administrative departments, binding shops, and printing press for the central newspapers. The telephone number is 43652, with extensions to all offices and workshops in the building.
26. Trud, the Trade Union paper; Vecherni Novini, the evening paper of the Sofia Party Branch; and various weeklies and magazines such as Uchitelsko Delo and Transporten Glas are printed at the large press which is located at 80-82 Dondukov, Sofia, telephone 72501.

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27. The Government publications are printed at 2 Cherni Vrach, Sofia, telephone 62031. All other dailies, weeklies, magazines, and scientific books are printed at the following presses:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Kirkov	Denkoglu	80647
9 Septemvri	Benkovski 40	32637
Decho Stefanov	Angel Kunchev 1	74757
Kotse Dimitrov	Slaveykov Square 1	77788
Todor Dimitrov	Blvd. Dondukov 48	81581
Narodna Mladezh	Moskovska 7	81920
Agricultural Party	Bacho Kiro 2	

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